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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/483,186	01/14/2000	Francisco Corella	10001559-1	8070

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FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

BROWN, CHRISTOPHER J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2134

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/483,186	Applicant(s) CORELLA, FRANCISCO	
	Examiner Christopher J. Brown	Art Unit 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/31/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. The examiner mailed an office action on 11/02/05 written on 10/21/05 which the applicant is encouraged to ignore, in order to streamline prosecution. The office action below is essentially the same as the action mailed on 11/02/05. The time period for response will be restarted as of the mailing of this Non-final office action. The examiner apologizes for any inconvenience.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

The amended claims submitted 10/31/05 contains the same notation of the amended claims submitted on 7/22/05, (ie. phrases added, by underlining them, phrases removed with lines drawn through them). Future actions should only mark *newly* amended claims with such notation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-28 are rejected The meaning of every term used in any of the claims should be apparent from the descriptive portion of the specification with clear disclosure as to its import; and in mechanical cases, it should be identified in the descriptive portion of the specification by reference to the drawing, designating the part or parts therein to which the term applies. A term used in the claims may be given a special meaning in the description. No term may be given a meaning repugnant to the usual meaning of the term. See MPEP 608.01 (o).

As per claims 1-28 the term “PKI” is stated in the claims along with unsigned documents. It is inherent in a PKI system that the certificate, or ticket is signed. It is part of the definition Newton’s Telecom Dictionary “....procedures for the distribution of public keys via digital certificates signed by Certificate Authorities....”

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-28, are rejected because in a comprising claim, such as claims 1 and 13, it is not clear how the negative limitation of “not signed” effects the remaining portions of the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings "How to protect the company jewels" in view of Fischer US 5,475,826

As per claims 1, 13, 25, and 26 Stallings teaches that a certificate authority issues a certificate, (Page 2 paragraph 3 lines 1-6). Stallings teaches an issued certificate with a public key, long term identification information, and meta-data related to the certificate, where the certificate is not signed, (Page 2, paragraph 4, lines 1-2). Stallings teaches a period of validity, (Page 3, paragraph 1 line 4). Stallings does not teach a verifier with hashes.

Fischer teaches a system that has a verifier that maintains hashes of files in a security database. Fischer teaches that when files are presented they are scanned and a new hash is computed to verify the file matches the hash stored in the database, (Col 12 line 63- Col 13 line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the certificate system of Stallings with the hash verifier of Fischer because the hash table verification would enhance the security of the system.

As per claims 2 and 14, Stallings teaches that the certificate has a time period, (Validity) (Page 3, paragraph 1 line 4).

As per claims 6, 7, 8, 18, 19, and 20 it is well known in the art to use the hashing algorithms of MD5, and SHA1, which are collusion free hash algorithms.

Claims 3, 4 and 15, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings “How to protect the company jewels” in view of Fischer US 5,475,826 in view of Maruyama US 6,393,563

As per claims 3, and 15, the previous Stallings-Fischer combination teaches that the certificate may not need a time and date, (Page 3, paragraph 2, lines 1-2).

As per claims 4 and 16, Stallings discloses a private key. Stallings does not disclose storing the private key on a smart card.

Maruyama disclose a private key may be stored on a smartcard, (Col 1 line 20, 53-56).

It would be obvious to modify the Stallings private key with Maruyama’s smart card, because the smart card increases the security of key storage.

Claims 5 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings "How to protect the company jewels" in view of Fischer US 5,475,826 in view of Kausik US 6,263,446.

As per claims 5 and 17, the previous Stallings-Fischer combination does not disclose a software wallet.

Kausik discloses storing a private key in a software wallet, (Col 4 lines 1-6).

It would be obvious to modify Stallings private key with Kausik's software wallet because the wallet increases the security of key storage.

Claims 9, 21, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings "How to protect the company jewels" in view of Fischer US 5,475,826 in view of Gasser US 5,224,163.

As per claims 9, 21, 27, and 28 the previous Stallings-Fischer combination does not disclose that the certificate is revoked based on the validity of the long term information and public key.

Gasser discloses that if the key of the certificate is compromised, it is revoked, (Col 7 lines 5-9).

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Stallings certificate revocation with Gassers invalid key revocation, because a subject that used an invalid key would not be accepted.

Claims 10, and 22, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings “How to protect the company jewels” in view of Fischer US 5,475,826 in view of Micali US 5,793,868 in view of Boyle 6,212,636.

As per claims 10 and 22, the previous Stallings-Fischer combination does not disclose a revocation system involving hashes. Micali discloses a certificate revocation system where the certificate authority takes a hash of the certificates to be revoked, (Col 3 lines 18-23).

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Stallings revocation system with Micali’s hashes, because hash’s take less memory to store, and are well known for authentication properties in the art.

Boyle discloses that upon being notified that a certificate is revoked, that any data related to the certificate is erased from memory, (Col 21 line 59- 67).

It would be obvious to modify the Stallings-Fischer-Micali combination above with Boyle’s method of deletion, because a subject would not want to accidentally use a revoked certificate.

Claims 11, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings “How to protect the company jewels” in view of Fischer US 5,475,826 in view of Micali US 5,793,868 in view of Perlman US 5,687,235

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As per claims 11 and 23, the previous Stallings-Fischer-Micali combination does not teach the certificate authority marking a certificate as being invalid in a database.

Perlman teaches a certificate authority with a list of serial numbers of invalid certificates, and a CRL, (Col 6 lines 12-21).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the CRL system of Perlman with the previous Stallings-Fischer-Micali combination because the CRL system improves the efficiency of an authentication exchange, (Perlman abstract).

Claims 12, and 24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stallings “How to protect the company jewels” in view of Fischer US 5,475,826 in view of Micali US 5,793,868 in view of Boyle 6,212,636 in view of Gasser US 5,224,163.

As per claims 12 and 24, the previous Stallings-Fischer-Micali-Boyle combination does not disclose deleting the certificate from the database once it has been revoked.

Gasser discloses a certificate authority (GNS) deletes the revoked certificate, (Col 7 lines 5-10).

It would be obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the Stallings combination with Gasser’s deletion method because the certificates are no longer useful.

Conclusion

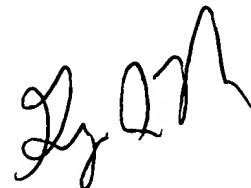
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher J. Brown whose telephone number is (571)272-3833. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on (571)272-3838. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Christopher J. Brown

1/06/06

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CJB', written in a cursive style.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Morse', written in a cursive style.